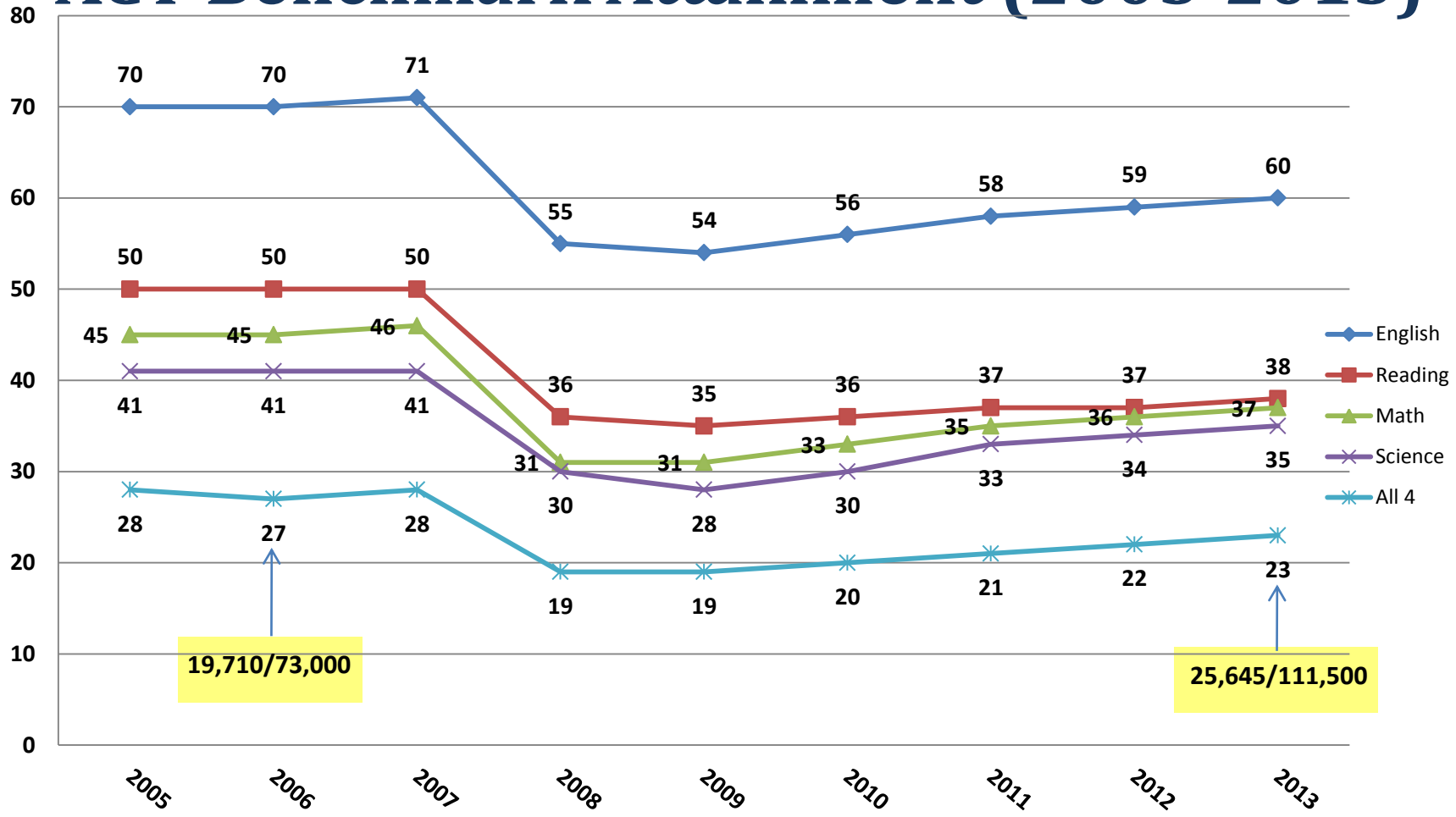
The ACT Aspire Assessment System

Paul Weeks

Vice President, Customer Engagement, ACT, Inc.

Michigan Legislature | February 5, 2014

Michigan High School Grads
ACT Benchmark Attainment (2005-2013)



ACT®

Chronology of Foundations and Firsts

2014	**ACT Aspire: The first next-generation assessment administration, grade 3 to college-entry assessment system**
2012	**ACT and Pearson launch ACT Aspire**
2011	**Two federally funded state consortia begin assessment development work**
2010	**Common Core State Standards complete**
2010	**ACT begins development of next-generation college and career readiness assessment system**
2009	**ACT convenes chief state school officers to begin thinking about the "next generation of college and career assessments"**
2008	**Joint CCSSO/NGA call for common state standards**
2007	**CCSSO engages chiefs in discussion on "national standards" – later renamed Common Core**
2004	**NGA proposes college and career readiness initiative**
2003	**ACT produces empirically based predictive College Readiness Benchmarks**
1997	**ACT first to produce comprehensive body of empirically based College Readiness Standards**
1987	**ACT begins first comprehensive college readiness research initiative**

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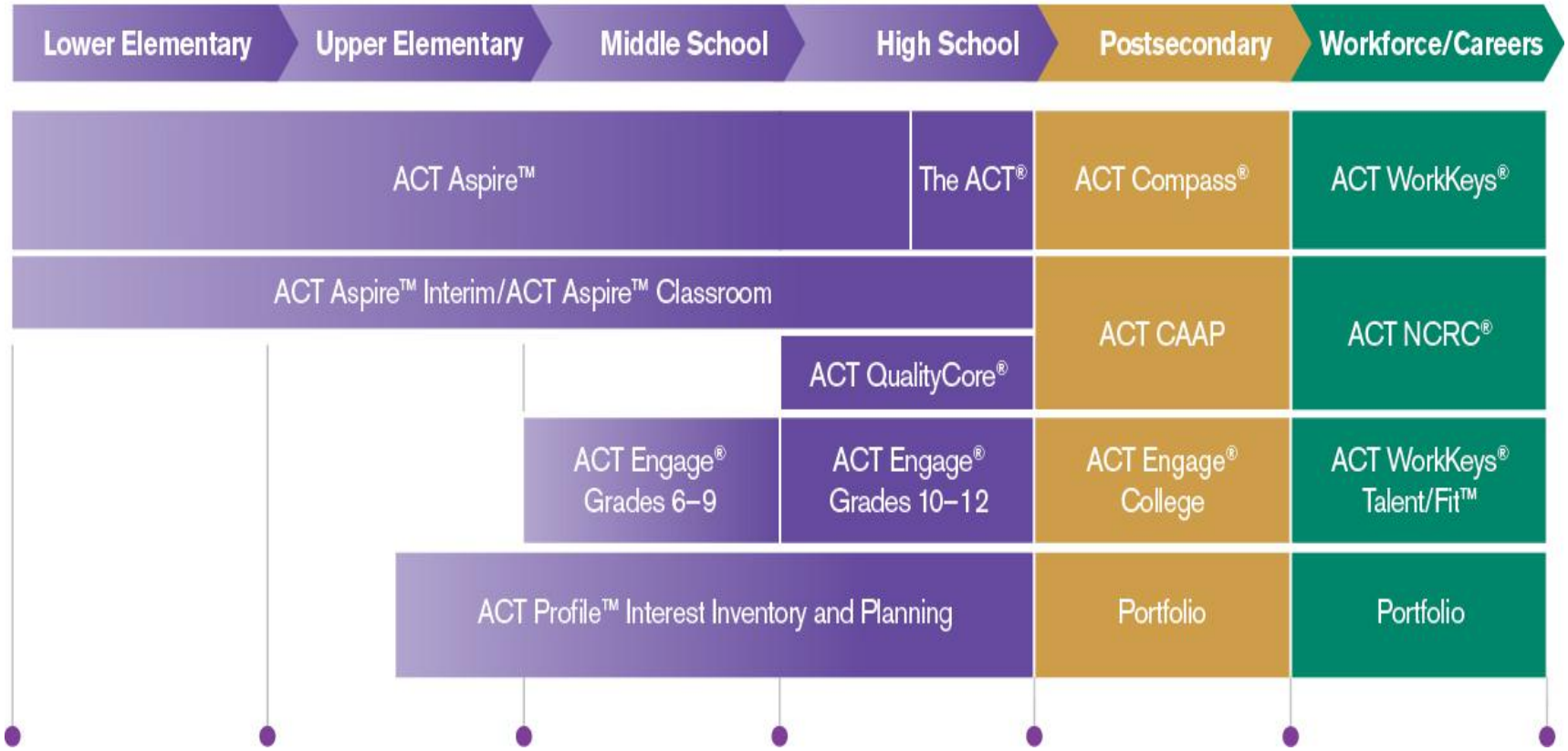
ACT's Continuum of Solutions



ACT® Aspire™

ACT Aspire Summative, Assessed Apr 7-15, 2014

Benjamin Smith
Mr. Halls Homeroom, Grade 9
Brunswick High School, Brunswick District
Birth Date: 6/25/2006, Student ID: 0023002100320

Current Progress
How is Benjamin progressing toward unlocking his potential and preparing for college and a career?

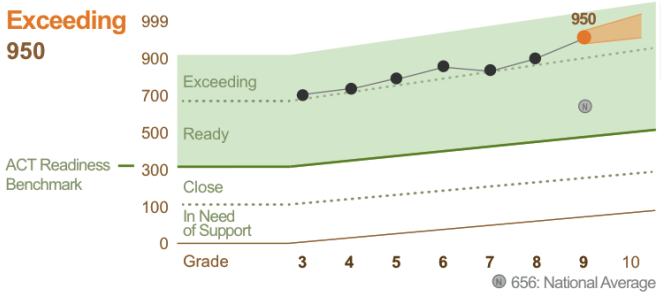
COMPOSITE SCORE	695
PREDICTED ACT COMPOSITE SCORE	17-20
	Maximum: 36

Sample Student Report

SCIENCE

Exceeding
950

College and Career Readiness: Current and Predicted Path



PREDICTED ACT SCORE **33 - 36**

Percentage of Points Achieved in Each Subject's Skill

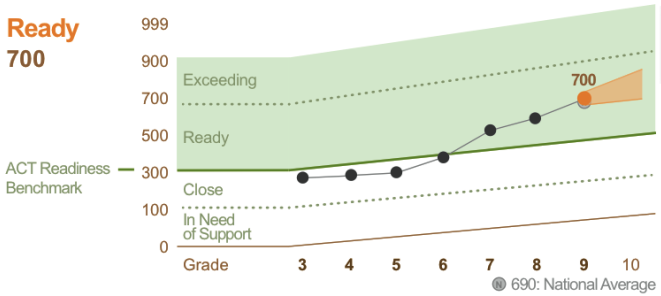
		ACT Readiness Range
Interpretation of Data	90% 9 of 10	
Scientific Investigation	75% 3 of 4	
Evaluation of Models, Inferences, and Experimental Results	50% 4 of 8	

Improvement Ideas for Lowest Skill

Practice making conclusions or predictions using data from experiments.

READING

Ready
700



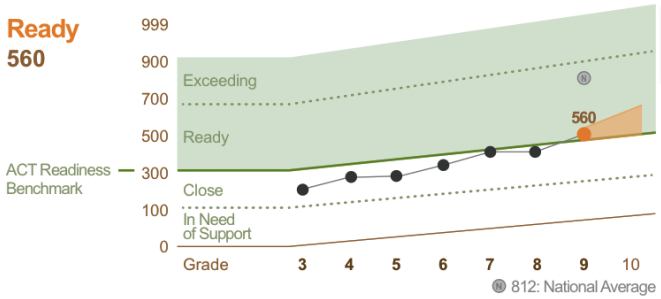
PREDICTED ACT SCORE **21 - 24**

		ACT Readiness Range
Key Ideas and Details	60% 3 of 5	
Craft and Structure	25% 1 of 4	
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas	25% 2 of 8	

Note language whose meaning is not clear and come up with possible meanings based on the context and your own knowledge.

ENGLISH

Ready
560



PREDICTED ACT SCORE **17 - 20**

		ACT Readiness Range
Production of Writing	60% 3 of 5	
Knowledge of Language	25% 2 of 5	
Conventions of Standard English	25% 1 of 4	

Practice checking verbs to make sure they match the subject in number and person, even when other nouns are between them.

An **ACT Readiness Benchmark** is provided for each assessment. Students who score at or above these benchmarks are on target to meet ACT's College and Career Readiness Benchmarks when they leave high school.

A student on target for **College and Career Readiness** is performing at an academic achievement level that indicates they are likely to be successful in college or job training after high school.

The **ACT Readiness Range** shows where a student who has met the **ACT Readiness Benchmark** on this assessment would typically perform.

The **predicted path** for each assessment is a projection of where scores will fall based upon expected growth rates.

ACT Aspire

ACT Aspire Summative, Assessed Apr 7-15, 2014

Mr. Halls Homeroom
Grade 9
Brunswick High School, Brunswick District, Group ID: 2230

Proficiency Summary: Mathematics
How can students be grouped by proficiency to help focus teaching?

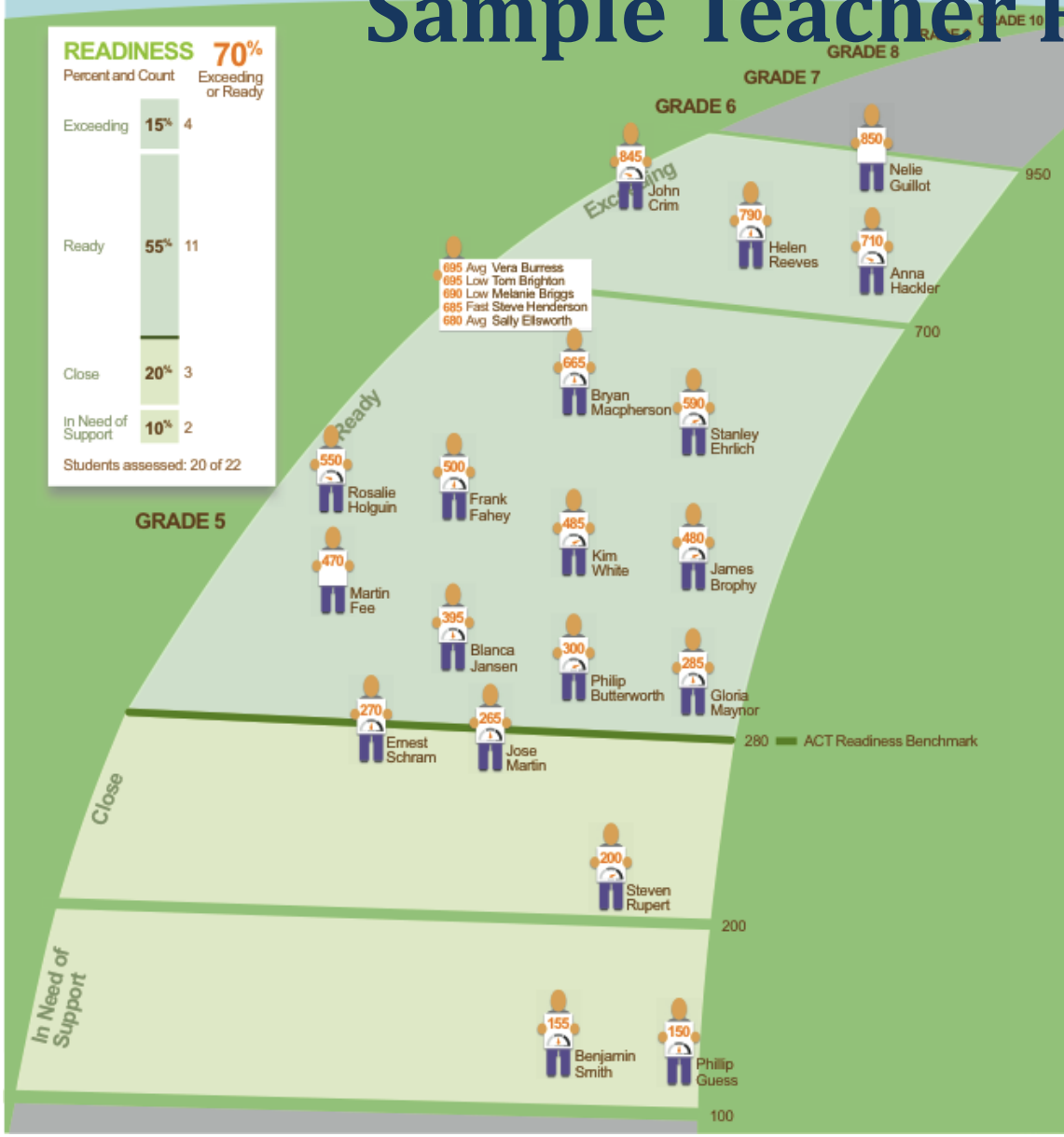
Sample Teacher Report

READINESS 70%

Percent and Count — Exceeding or Ready

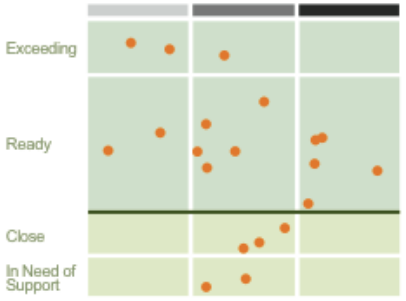
Exceeding	15%	4
Ready	55%	11
Close	20%	3
In Need of Support	10%	2

Students assessed: 20 of 22



GROWTH DISTRIBUTION

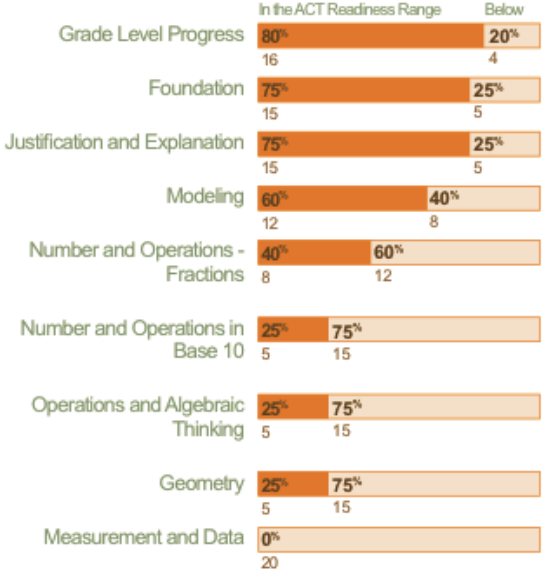
20%	55%	25%
Low	Average	Fast



2 students did not test last year

SKILLS

ACT Readiness Range Distribution: Percent and Count



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